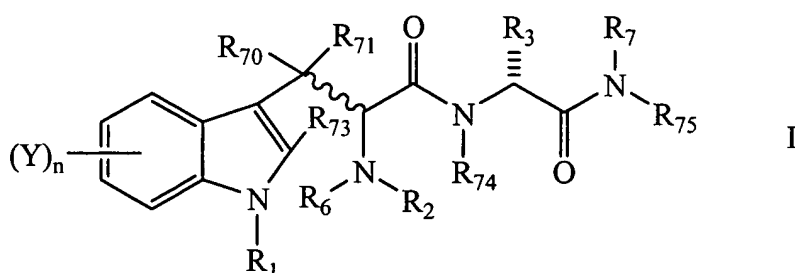


I. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A compound of general formula I



wherein:

R₁ and R₇₀ independently represent a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl or acyl group with the proviso that when R₇₁ is hydrogen as hereinafter described, R₇₀ is not hydrogen;

R₂ represents a hydrogen atom, or an alkyl or benzoyl group or an optionally substituted alkyl or acyl group substituted with one or more halo, nitro, cyano, alkoxy, hydroxy, amino, alkylamino, sulphinyl, alkylsulphinyl, sulphonyl, alkylsulphonyl, amido, alkylamido, alkoxycarbonyl, haloalkoxycarbonyl or haloalkyl groups;

R₇₃ represents a hydrogen atom or an optional substituent;

Y represents an optional substituent:

n represents 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4;

R₃ represents a hydrogen atom, or an optionally substituted alkyl group;

R₇₄ represents a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy group or an optionally substituted alkyl or acyl group;

R₇ represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group;

R₇₅ represents an optionally substituted alkyl group or -Q'-C(O)X, wherein

Q' is an optionally substituted $-\text{CH}_2-$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2-$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2-$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{C}(\text{C})=\text{C}-$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{C}\equiv\text{C}-$, or phenylene,

X is $-OR_8$, $-SR_8$, or $-NR_9R_{10}$, and R_8 , R_9 and R_{10} independently represent a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl group; and

- i) R_6 represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl or benzoyl acyl group or an ~~optionally substituted~~ alkyl group substituted with one or more halo, nitro, cyano, alkoxy, hydroxy, amino, alkylamino, sulphinyl, alkylsulphinyl, sulphonyl, alkylsulphonyl, amido, alkylamido, alkoxycarbonyl, haloalkoxycarbonyl or haloalkyl groups; R_{71} represents a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl or acyl group; and R_{72} represents a hydrogen atom; or
- ii) R_6 represents a hydrogen atom, ~~or an optionally substituted alkyl or acyl group,~~ or an alkyl group substituted with one or more halo, nitro, cyano, alkoxy, hydroxy, amino, alkylamino, sulphinyl, alkylsulphinyl, sulphonyl, alkylsulphonyl, amido, alkylamido, alkoxycarbonyl, haloalkoxycarbonyl or haloalkyl groups, and R_{71} and R_{72} are joined together such that a double bond is formed between the carbon atoms to which they are attached;

with the proviso that when

R_6 , R_7 , R_{70} and R_{71} are methyl;

R_2 , R_{72} , R_{73} and R_{74} are hydrogen;

R_3 is t-butyl;

R_{75} is $-\text{CH}(\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2)\text{C}(\text{H})=\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)\text{COOH}$ or

$-\text{CH}(\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2)\text{C}(\text{H})=\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)\text{COOCH}_3$; and

n is 0,

R_1 is not methyl.

Claim 2. (Currently Amended) A compound of claim 1, wherein

R_1 represents a hydrogen atom;

R_2 represents a hydrogen atom, or an alkyl group, or ~~an acyl~~ a benzoyl group;

R_3 represents a hydrogen atom, or an optionally substituted alkyl group;

n represents 0;

R_{70} represents a hydrogen atom or optionally substituted alkyl group;

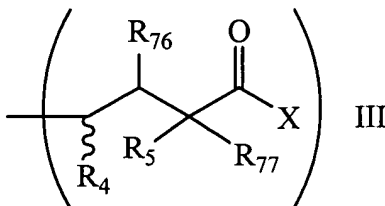
R_{71} represents a hydrogen atom or optionally substituted alkyl group, with the proviso that when R_{71} is hydrogen, R_{70} is not hydrogen;

R_{72} , R_{73} and R_{74} represent hydrogen atoms;

R_7 represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group;

R₆ represents a hydrogen atom, or an ~~optionally substituted~~ alkyl group;

R₇₅ represents a group of general formula III,



wherein

R₄ represents a hydrogen atom, or an optionally substituted alkyl group;

R₅ represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group;

R₇₆ and R₇₇ each represent a hydrogen atom or R₇₆ and R₇₇ are joined so that a C=C bond is formed between the carbon atoms to which R₇₆ and R₇₇ are attached; and

X represents a group -OR₈ or a group -NR₉R₁₀, wherein

R₈, R₉ and R₁₀ independently represent a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl group.

Claim 3. (Currently Amended) A compound of claim 1, wherein

R₁ represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group;

R₂ represents ~~an acyl~~ a benzoyl group;

R₃ represents a hydrogen atom, or an optionally substituted alkyl group;

n represents 0;

R₇₀ represents a hydrogen atom or optionally substituted alkyl group;

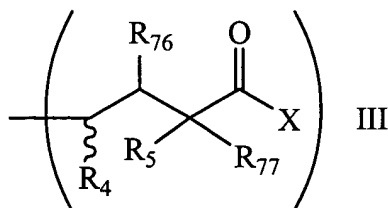
R₇₁ represents a hydrogen atom or optionally substituted alkyl group, with the proviso that when R₇₁ is hydrogen, R₇₀ is not hydrogen;

R₇₂, R₇₃ and R₇₄ represent hydrogen atoms;

R₇ represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group;

R₆ represents a hydrogen atom, or an ~~optionally substituted~~ alkyl group;

R₇₅ represents a group of general formula III,



wherein

R₄ represents a hydrogen atom, or an optionally substituted alkyl group;

R₅ represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group;

R₇₆ and R₇₇ each represent a hydrogen atom or R₇₆ and R₇₇ are joined so that a C=C bond is formed between the carbon atoms to which R₇₆ and R₇₇ are attached; and

X represents a group -OR₈ or a group -NR₉R₁₀, wherein

R₈, R₉ and R₁₀ independently represent a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl group.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended) A compound of claim 1, wherein

R₁ represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group;

R₂ represents a hydrogen atom, or an alkyl group, or ~~an acyl~~ a benzoyl group;

R₃ represents a hydrogen atom, or an optionally substituted alkyl group;

n represents 0;

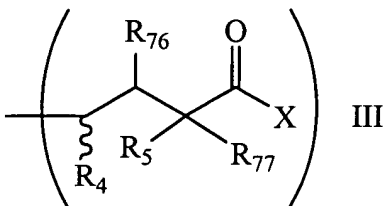
R₇₀ represents a hydrogen atom or optionally substituted alkyl group;

R₇₁ represents a hydrogen atom or optionally substituted alkyl group, with the proviso that when R₇₁ is hydrogen, R₇₀ is not hydrogen;

R₇₂, R₇₃ and R₇₄ represent hydrogen atoms;

R₆ represents a hydrogen atom, or an ~~optionally substituted~~ alkyl group;

R₇₅ represents a group of general formula III,



wherein

R₄ represents a hydrogen atom, or an optionally substituted alkyl group;
R₅ represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group;
R₇₆ and R₇₇ each represent a hydrogen atom or R₇₆ and R₇₇ are joined so that a C=C bond is formed between the carbon atoms to which R₇₆ and R₇₇ are attached; and
X represents a group –OR₈ or a group –NR₉R₁₀, wherein
R₉ and R₁₀ independently represent a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl group.

Claims 5 to 7. (Canceled)

Claim 8. (Currently Amended) The compound of claim 1, wherein

R₇₅ is –Q'–C(O)X;
Q' is optionally substituted –CH₂CH=CH–;
X is OH;
R₇₀ and R₇₁ are optionally substituted alkyl; and
R₂ and R₆ are different and each are is selected from hydrogen or methyl.

Claim 9. (Previously Presented) A composition comprising a compound of claim 1 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 10. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 2, wherein R₇₀ and R₇₁ are methyl groups.

Claim 11. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 3, wherein R₇₀ and R₇₁ are methyl groups.

Claim 12. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 4, wherein R₇₀ and R₇₁ are methyl groups.

Claim 13. (Previously Presented) A composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier together with a compound according to claim 1 in an amount effective to inhibit growth of tumor cells.